

*796/341 cont. / in Paredes (2) ^{One must read} The pages which he devotes To
 554 1. Mitos, supersticiones y supervivencias,
 etc., p. 176-186.

the alferez's to realize what the rank of alferez means to an Indian or Bolivian cholo. The pointless glory of bearing this title for one day generally brings the ruin of the hero of the festival with it.

*796 This expense is so crushing that in order to meet it the alferez are
 554 often obliged to have recourse to their relatives or friends for help.
 426 This consists of small gifts, and those who give them are called
ayni. The debt which is contracted in these circumstances is,
 Paredes tells us (2), sacred, and one cannot fail to discharge it.

2. Ibid., p. 162.

*796 During the Chipaya festivals I have actually seen Indians who came
 431 to offer the alferez either eggs, sheaves of straw, coca, or alcohol.
 These little gifts were most welcome and accepted with gratitude
 by the alferez, whose resources had been singularly strained by the
 world-wide crisis. Dr. Rivet (3) observed customs in Ecuador

3. Rivet (Paul). "Étude sur les
 Indiens de la région de Riobamba
 /Study on the Indians of the
 Riobamba Region/." Journal de la
Société des Américanistes de Paris.
 Paris, New Series, Vol. I, No. 1,
 1903, p. 76.

identical with those described here, the only difference being that
 in that land the alferez bears the name of prioste. "The Indians
 have a strong desire to give festivals which will eclipse all previous
 ones. This folly pushes some unfortunates to work a whole year,
 denying themselves stubbornly all but the strictly necessary, /342/
 even on Sundays (strange contradiction). Then the festival arrives,